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IF awards \$1.5M contract to Massachusetts firm

by Fran Crumb, Information Directorate

ROME, N.Y.— The Air Force Research Laboratory's Information Directorate has awarded a \$1,551,486 contract to BBN Technologies of Cambridge, Mass., to develop technology for enhancing security of lightweight, wireless networks.

The two-year contract, "Lightweight Security for Wireless Networks of Embedded Systems," is funded by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) of Arlington, Va., under its Network Embedded Software Technology program.

"BBN Technologies will address information security (INFOSEC) issues in wireless networks of miniature embedded systems," said Roger J. Dziegiel Jr., program manager in the

directorates' Information Technology Division.

"Embedded systems encompass a wide range of issues and frequently changing requirements. Miniaturization and nanotechnology have at times advanced beyond the ability of INFOSEC to secure them."

Successful execution of this project will produce three essential components of a lightweight INFOSEC system tailored for the Networks of Embedded Systems applications: lightweight authentication and access control middleware, bandwidth and power-efficient communication security mechanisms, and low-maintenance security support infrastructure. @